

Hamsplatter

January 1999

Volume 28 Issue 1

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N9WS 471-5492

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PO Box 15127
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Editor:

Vic Guess
WB9UZA 485-7472
victor9444@aol.com

President's Corner

The Christmas Banquet was a lot of fun and good fellowship. Santa and Mrs. Clause paid a visit and entertained the young and the young at heart alike. The food was also very good, especially the desserts! There were approximately 34 families with a total of 67 attendees at the banquet making for a nice turnout!

Our club, together with ACARTS, co-sponsored a very needy family for Christmas through collection of nonperishable foods and cash donations. On Christmas Eve we presented 9 grocery bags full of food and a gift certificate in the amount of \$70 to the needy family. They were most appreciative and asked that we share with all their wish for God's blessings and their best wishes for the holidays.

The January 15th meeting is the club auction. It will be held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church at 7:30 p.m. For those who wish to auction off items, you can simplify the process by identifying each item by your call sign and a sequence number. It would also be helpful if you brought a list of the items with the sequence number assigned to each. This will reduce the amount of recording necessary before the start of the auction and get things underway more quickly.

Next Meeting is the Club Auction - Friday, January 15, 1999 at 7:30 PM.

See you there!

73s

Bill Stockslager (N9WS)

ARRL COMMENTS IN PART 15 PROCEEDINGS

from *The ARRL Letter* Vol. 17, No. 50

The ARRL has filed comments with the FCC in two proceedings that it says could lead to greater interference to amateurs.

The League expressed "continued strenuous opposition" to an FCC proposal to revise Part 15 of the rules to permit unlicensed, point-to-point transmitters in the 24.05 to 24.25 GHz band at field strengths of up to 2.5 V per meter, measured at 3 meters. Amateur Radio has an allocation at 24.0 to 24.25 GHz.

In September, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making in ET Docket 98-156, in response to a petition from Sierra Digital Communications Inc. The company wants to market point-to-point microwave devices. The ARRL already had commented on the Sierra Digital Petition for Rule Making. It called the FCC's proposed rules changes "entirely inappropriate for Part 15 unlicensed facilities."

The League said the Commission considered and denied a petition in 1983 to permit unlicensed, uncoordinated, point-to-point microwave operation in the 24-GHz band. The recent petition amounts to "the exact same proposal," the League said.

The League also commented in response to a Notice of Inquiry, in ET Docket 98-153, about whether the FCC should revise Part 15 to allow ultra-wideband (UWB) transmission systems. Such systems, operating in the VHF and UHF spectrum, include

**Next Club Meeting - Friday,
January 15, 1999, 7:30 PM
Good Shepherd United
Methodist Church, corner
of Vance Ave. & Reed Rd.**

Program: Club Auction

Be There !

continued on page 6

December Meeting Minutes

FT. WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES
18 DECEMBER, 1998



1. The December meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club occurred on 18 December, 1998. It was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church and was co-hosted by President Bill Stockslager and Chris Kringle. There were about 75

hungry members plus one ravinous Clint Stedje present as this was our annual Christmas Banquet.

2. As it was Party-Time, there was no business meeting. Instead, everyone partook of the ham, chicken, mashed potatoes and many other goodies provided by the club and brought in by club members. (Did you try that Lasagna? Oh-Boy)!!! Nooooobody went away hungry.

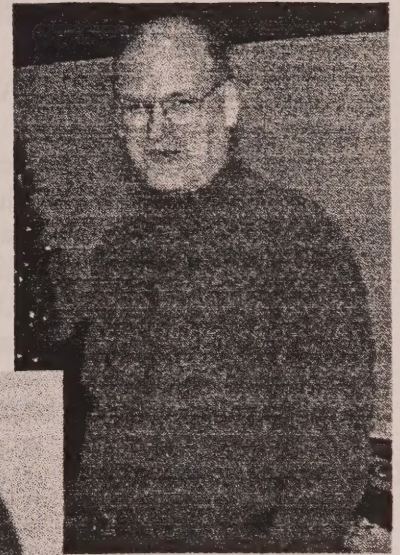
3. Chris Kringle showed up and gave presents to all of the good little boys and girls,even Jim Pliett.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

AL BURKE, WB9SSE



More Christmas Banquet Images



Our Esteemed Leader



Service Awards



COOPERATION CURBS "WIRELESS MODEM" QRM

from *The ARRL Letter* Vol. 17, No. 51/Vol 18, No 1

... they'll do whatever it takes to keep the devices from causing interference to amateur HF bands

A maker of "wireless modems" and a cable TV company that's been installing the units across the US have told the ARRL they'll do whatever it takes to keep the devices from causing interference to amateur HF bands. The ARRL contacted the two companies after receiving reports from members of the Northern California Contest Club about 80-meter interference from the devices. The devices, manufactured overseas by Phonex Corporation of Midvale, Utah, operate under Part 15 of the FCC's rules. This means that they may not cause interference to licensed services.

"Although the Phonex has complied with required FCC regulations, the ARRL has identified a potential interference problem on the low end of the 80-meter band," said Phonex Senior Engineer Scott Bullock, KK7LC. "We have several hams in our organization, and we do not want to cause any interference to any amateur band."

Wireless modems are first cousins to wireless telephone jacks used to provide additional telephone jacks without wiring. Both are sold in pairs. One unit plugs into the telephone connection while the other serves as a telephone or modem jack; both plug into convenient ac outlets. The carrier-current devices impose RF on the power line to transmit data back and forth in the form of wideband FM.

Unfortunately, the Phonex wireless modems operate on 3.52 and 8.27 MHz.

Other units made by Phonex and sold as wireless extension telephone jacks under other brand names operate on 3.025 and 6.436 MHz, where they generally will not affect the ham bands. Unfortunately, the Phonex wireless modems operate on 3.52 and 8.27 MHz. Cable giant TCI has been installing these units in some subscribers' homes to make a convenient connection from the cable box to the telephone line to transmit billing information. Wireless modems transmit a continuous carrier on the lower frequency, whether the

phone connection is in use or not, and on both frequencies when the remote line is in use.

ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFL, says the League received reports in mid-December about persistent interference on the low end of 80 meters and on other bands. The interference, consisting of discrete, somewhat noisy and drifting carriers, typically showed up around 3520 to 3530 kHz, but harmonics have been reported as high as 20 meters. ARRL Lab tests verified that the devices pose a serious QRM problem on the lower part of 80 meters and possibly on other bands.

FCC rules permit the unlicensed devices to radiate signals on HF of up to 30 uV/meter, even on an amateur band. Device operators—TCI in this case—must correct any resulting interference, however.

TCI Senior Engineer Tony Werner said TCI plans to eliminate the 3.52 MHz wireless jacks it's installed "as expediently as possible" by replacing them with 3.3 MHz units or by running a hardwired telephone connection. TCI will immediately replace units that cause interference and automatically replace other 3.52-MHz units during routine customer service and plans to use nothing but 3.3-MHz units in the future. Hams experiencing harmful interference they believe is related to these devices should contact their local TCI office. TCI says it will be at least a few weeks before it has service information and replacement units on hand.

Phonex says it's made the necessary production changes to move the operating frequency of its units to 3.3 MHz. If one of its units causes interference, he said, Phonex will retune or replace it. Hams can contact Phonex Customer Service at 800-437-0101.

"Both companies have been refreshingly cooperative," said Hare, who—as his W1RFL call sign reflects—is the League's point man for interference issues. "If every RFI problem that involves Amateur Radio could be fixed so quickly, I would probably be out of a job."

Hare said hams with questions about this issue may contact him directly at ARRL HQ at 860-594-0318; e-mail ehare@arrl.org. Additional information is available at <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/rfinteljx.html>.

INARRL BULLETIN 95-98

SUBJECT: WINTER DRIVING SAFETY
by Don Evilsizor, KA9QWC

December 30, 1998

These tips are blended from FEMA/NOAA/NHSTA and a little of my own to cover HAM radio too.

I think it is time to refresh our memories somewhat concerning driving and safety during our winter season, indeed it may concern protecting yourself and family from life threatening situations. From my casual observance for our area of Indiana it seems normal to get a cold snap just before or around the Christmas season and then the snow and ice conditions seem to follow up in January and February. Old man winter can strike with fury about any time and especially when one may least expect it then compounded when we are not properly prepared. Just because your area may not of been hit with severe weather in recent winters of past does not mean one can ignore what can happen.

Another observation of mine has been the casual dress apparel that is often worn in light of our modern day cosmetic appearance concerns as opposed to that of keeping warm. This may be OK for going around the city block but for traveling any distance you are asking for trouble.

If you are going to travel here is some advice that you can tune in to from a NOAA representative. "Stay tuned to ongoing weather conditions in your area," said John J. Kelly Jr., director of NOAA's National Weather Service. "The best source for up-to-the-minute National Weather Service forecasts and storm warnings comes from local NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts. Special radios sold at most electronics stores can pick up NOAA Weather Radio frequencies and even sound an automatic alert when severe weather is imminent." The NWS operates more than 480 NOAA Weather Radio transmitters throughout the country. Now this should not be a challenge for us HAMS, but you may consider those points for our non-ham family, friends or others who may be on a road trip.

The NHTSA suggests the following as some items to consider when packing for a trip.

Have On Hand:

- Flashlight
- Jumper cables
- Abrasive material (like sand, kitty litter, traction mats, even floor mats)
- Shovel
- Warning devices
- Blankets (or floor mats and newspapers)
- Snow Brush/Ice Scraper

Long Trips? Add:

- Food
- Water
- Medication

- Blankets
- Cell phone
- Stopped or Stalled?
- Stay with your car
- Don't over exert
- Put bright marker on antenna/in windows/ shine dome light
- Clear exhaust pipe, if you run your car
- Run your car just long enough to remove the chill

Plan Your Route

- Be familiar with the maps/directions to avoid confusion
- Check the weather reports and adjust starting time
- Let others know how you are coming and when you'll arrive



KA9QWC would also suggest that some of my personal added items would include a couple of those new fangled extended lighters, candles and one of those cheap tarps that are so readily available now days.

Since La Nina has replaced El Nino as the globe's major climate influence, weather patterns across the United States are expected to be different than last year, especially during the winter months.

More detailed information on winter preparedness and safety tips is available on FEMA's World Wide Web site <<http://www.fema.gov/fema/wntsft.htm>>.

Current weather forecasts are available on the National Weather Service site <<http://www.nws.noaa.gov>>.

The NWS's winter outlook is available at <<http://www.cpc.noaa.gov>> click on forecasts and then 30-90 day.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Office of Emergency Information & Media Affairs — Washington, D.C.

Information Available 24 hours a day . . .

... on the World Wide Web: <<http://www.fema.gov>>

... FEMA is also cosponsor of Storm98: <<http://www.storm98.com>>

... via fax-on-demand: phone in the U.S.A. (202) 646-FEMA (646-3362)

... via digital audio for broadcasters & print: contact eipa@fema.gov and listen to the FEMA Radio Network on the FEMA Website using RealAudio

To sum it all up I guess the real choice is yours. You can prepare and be ready to meet the challenge of winter driving safely or like some of the motorists during 1997 in northwest Indiana and be part of the problem. Hundreds of motorists were unexpectedly and ill prepared last year when the primary highway in that area became clogged further creating all sorts of emergencies that taxed the local agencies who became overburdened and unable to reach the victims at times. Yes, I realize some of you may have other suggestions to contribute but overall just wish you all a safe holiday session.

For Sale, Trades, Wants, etc.



For Sale:

- 12 foot C Band satellite system complete with receiver \$75.00.
- Steel Equipto type desk w/ 2 draws and a computer keyboard slide in the center. The desk top is

18 X 43 inches.

• Adjustable swivel secretary chair.
Paul Welty, WB9EBX, 219-485-5931,
pfwelty4921@juno.com

- Kenwood TS-940/AT 160-10 + Gen Cov. -100 W - Slope Tuning Notch - AC built in.
- Matching Speaker
- Kenwood MC 60A Mike
- Cushcraft R-5
- RG-58 Coax
- Complete Pkg. \$1350.00 or will sell separately
D. K. Walker, N9LTM, 219-432-9795, N9LTM@AOL.COM

- Icom IC2AT 2 Meter HT - Manual & 2 extra batteries, BC-30 Charger-\$200.00
- Icom IC24AT (Like new) dual band HT, manual, case, 3 extra batteries, hand mike, drop-in charger- \$350.00
- Cushcraft A4S - \$200.00

W1AW HAS NEW OPERATING SCHEDULE

from *The ARRL Letter* Vol. 17, No. 51/Vol 18, No 1

... reinstates morning code practice on four weekdays and expands weekday operating hours for visiting hams.

Starting Saturday, January 2, 1999, Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be on a new operating schedule that reinstates morning code practice on four weekdays and expands weekday operating hours for visiting hams.

The new schedule reinstates one hour of code practice Tuesdays through Fridays at 9 AM, while discontinuing morning bulletin transmissions. This makes room to expand visitor operating hours on weekdays by three hours. The new visitor hours will be 10 AM until 4 PM, Monday through Friday.

The new schedule eliminates weekend code practice and bulletins, however. The demise of weekend hours also means an end to Saturday W1AW operation by visiting hams. The evening code practice and bulletin schedules remain almost unchanged, except that the final transmis-

• Yaesu FT-890 w/500 hz filter and auto-tuner - \$750
Contact WA9WTH's estate being handled by Willie, K9WJ at 724-4721 (in Decatur)

• Zenith Mini Sport laptop computer w/external 3.5 drive like new condition includes soft case, manuals and box [10] new disc's.....\$150.00 great for mobile packet!
Richard Yergens, N9PDX, 486-1432 or
fwwefax@juno.com

• RF Concepts 2-23 mobile 2M amp. In: 0.2 to 5W, Out: 30W (at 2W in). Built-in preamp. - \$50.00
Charlie Murray, WD9ITM, 478-1372

• Hewlett Packard AM-FM Signal Generator, model 202H, 54-216 MHz (needs tubes) - \$25
• Boonton Univerter model 207-E, 150.1-205 MHz input to 0.1-55 MHz output - \$15
Vic Guess, WB9UZA, 219-485-7472,
victor9444@aol.com

Wanted:

• Hewlett Packard HP-15C scientific calculator
Don, WB8HQS, 219-484-3317,

sion of the day will be a code bulletin at 11 PM Eastern Time. The midnight digital and 12:45 AM voice bulletins will be discontinued.

The complete new schedule appears in January 1999 QST, page 74 and on ARRLWeb at <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html>. Members may direct questions and comments about the new schedule to W1AW, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; e-mail w1aw@arrl.org.

cont'd from pg. 1 - ARRL Files Comments

applications like radar, voice, data, and control communications devices. The League expressed concerns that Amateur Radio and home entertainment devices, including TV sets, could be subjected to interference from the Part 15 UWB devices.

The League proposed that the Commission ask manufacturers of UWB devices to develop and circulate technical standards "in support of a unified, comprehensive plan." The League also offered its services to help determine proper technical regulations.

Membership Data: (Give this form to the treasurer at any FWRC meeting or mail to the address below)

Name _____ Call _____ Class: ☐ N ☐ T ☐ G ☐ A ☐ AE

Street _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK – Provided at no cost to club members, this handbook provides a full set of information about present and past club activities, events, and functions. The handbook is available in a clear cover binder, and is upgradeable by easy insertion of new pages into the binder.

The FWRC is moving toward electronic information distribution. Are you interested in receiving information from the club by E-MAIL? ☐ Y ☐ N

Shall we list your address and phone number in the membership roster ☐ Y ☐ N?

Are you presently an ARRL member ☐ Y ☐ N?

Membership Term: ☐ (Jan - Dec) ☐ (Jul - Dec)

Family Membership: ☐ \$21.00/yr ☐ \$10.50/yr immediate family (list all callsigns)

Regular Membership: ☐ \$15.00/yr ☐ \$7.50/yr licensed member

Student Membership: ☐ \$6.00/yr ☐ \$3.00/yr full time student

Associate Membership: ☐ \$15.00/yr ☐ \$7.50/yr unlicensed member

Your Check Number _____ please pay by check. It's easier for both of us.

Mail to: The Fort Wayne Radio Club
PO Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46885

Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

Voice: 146.76/16

146.94/34

444.875/449.875

ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out

Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, via e-mail victor9444@aol.com. Please put "for Hamsplatter" in the Subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755.

Deadline for the February issue: 2/4/99.

Area Traffic Nets

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

IMO: meets nightly at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM) on 146.88

Auburn: meets Mon, Wed., Thur., Fri., & Sat. at 2300 UTC (6 PM) on 147.015+

21 Repeater Group: meets each Wednesday at 0200 UTC (9 PM) on 147.150

Fort Wayne 6M net: meets nightly at 0000 UTC (7 PM) on 50.58 AM

Miscellaneous Nets

Huntington ARES: Sat/Tues at 0100 UTC (8 PM) on 146.685

Portside: 3rd Wednesday at 0030 UTC (7:30 PM) on 444.300

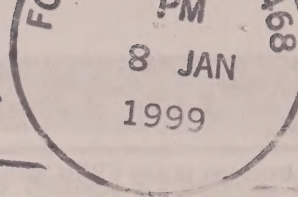
Whitley Co. / ARES: Wednesdays at 00 15 UTC (7:15 PM) on 444.55 & 146.46 (simplex)

Whitley Co. Sunday: Sundays at 0045 UTC (7:15 PM) on 444.55 & 146.46 (simplex)

Sloppy Code Net: Sundays at 0200 UTC (9 PM) on 40M (7.1405 MHz). This CW net's purpose is to build confidence and help increase code speed. The speed is generally 1-10 WPM. If you want to copy only contact Henry, KA9ZNN at 749-8968 for details.

Be sure to visit the Fort Wayne Radio Club on the Internet: <http://home1.gte.net/n9iww2/fwrc/>

THE FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB
PO BOX 15127
FORT WAYNE, IN 46885



TO:

